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Parrot – Strain – Mc Broom

L.A. Police Withhold Evidence That Sirhan Was Not Alone in RFK Assassination

By WILLIAM DICK

Three prominent Los Angeles men have told The ENQUIRER they are convinced there was more than one man involved in the Robert F. Kennedy assassination — and that they saw some of the other plotters escaping immediately after the fatal shooting.

According to their information:

A frantic-looking young man rushed out of the front door of the Embassy Room, the ballroom at the Ambassador Hotel, seconds after Senator Kennedy was shot.

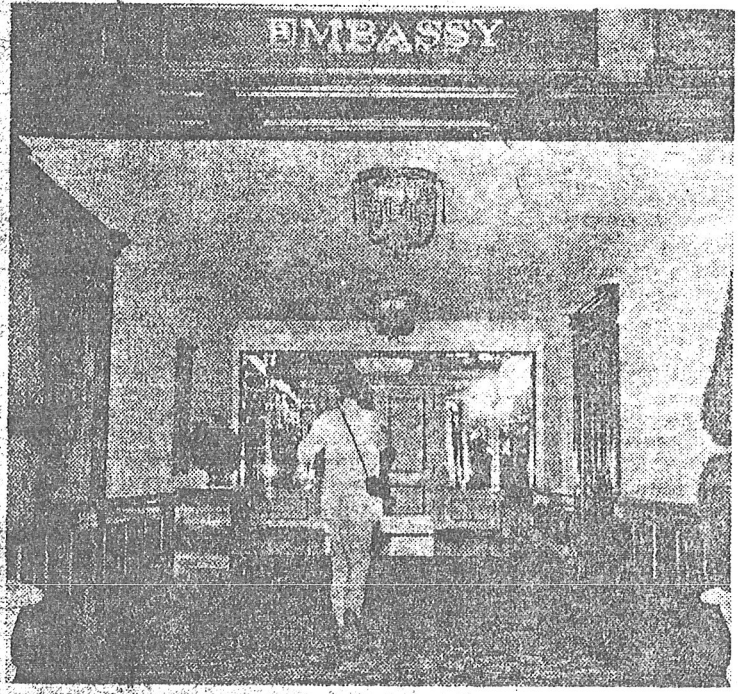
He was carrying something wrapped in a paper under his arm, and was followed by men shouting "Stop that man! Stop that man!" The young man began running and was lost in the crowds and confusion.

Also four other young men came out of the front door of the ballroom carrying a fifth, who looked as if he had been wounded. They all vanished into the crowd outside the ballroom.

The witnesses who saw these men were a physician, Dr. Fred Parrott, Samuel A. Strain, manager of the Samuel A. Strain Insurance Co.; and Marcus S. W. McBroom, Ph.D., director of family and professional services for the California Human Development Center.

Dr. McBroom, who also is associated with The Institute for Creative Living, did not see the four men carrying the

ACCUSED ASSASSIN caught by police was Sirhan Sirhan (center), but six other men were seen running away.



MURDER SCENE EXIT: Corridor leading from ballroom door (rear of photo) was crowded, but three witnesses claim they saw six men push through to the outside immediately after the shooting.

with wounded man out.

But in an interview shortly after the shooting, he said:

"I had a distinct impression there were two assassins. One seemed to have run out just ahead of me and he was seen by some of the news people and one of my friends."

He later identified this friend to The ENQUIRER as Strain.

Questioned about this by an ENQUIRER reporter, Strain said he was standing outside the front door to the ballroom in the hotel with a physician friend immediately after Kennedy made his victory speech. He said:

"Suddenly, a little fellow, about 5 feet 3, with dark hair, Caucasian, ran out. He had a bulky object in his right hand, wrapped in black paper.

"I couldn't see what it was. The paper was about 24 inches long. The man wore black horn-rimmed glasses, black pants, a blue turtleneck sweater."

(Strain's account of the package-carrying young man took on added significance three days later when Los Angeles city fireman Harold L. Burba told the Los Angeles County Grand Jury that indicted Sirhan for murder that Sirhan was carrying a similar object just moments before the shooting.

(Burba, who was in the hotel that night, told the jury he had observed the man later identified as Sirhan following the Kennedy party into the passageway which led to a serving kitchen and then to a temporary press room.

(His testimony on this point, during examination by the jury foreman, was as follows:

(Q: When this person passed by, he had something in his hand, or hands?

(A: Yes sir.

(Q: Could you describe that to us? A: Well, it looked to me like a rolled-up poster, and I thought maybe it was a Kennedy poster, or something. And he was holding it in both hands.

(Q: About how long was it? A: In this manner (indicating) — oh, I would say 24 inches long.

(Q: And you noticed that as this person walked by you? A: Yes sir.)

Strain's account of the actions of the young man who fled out of the front door of the ballroom alone, continued as follows:

"He ran directly at us, and in a girlish voice he said: 'Excuse me please, excuse me please,' in an excited way.

"We thought he had stolen something.

"As he went by, three men with cameras ran from the ballroom yelling 'Stop that man!' At that time, we did not know there had been a shooting. A girl came out screaming, 'The Senator's been shot!' I started after the little man, but the physician who was with me hit my shoulder and said, 'They are bringing him out now.'

"Then four young fellows in their 20s came out of the front door of the ballroom carrying a chubby little fellow on their shoulders. They were telling people to get out of the way.

"The chubby little fellow kept saying, 'I've been shot. Get the hell out of the way.'

"But there was no blood visible that I could see. They went down the main stairway and out the front of the hotel. We ran into the ballroom and we saw two people lying there. They were two who were slightly injured in the party and who were carried into the ballroom to be treated.

"It was my opinion that there was some kind of a decoy here. Because when I got outside later I asked about the men who went out, and someone said all of them jumped into a car and said, 'Let's get the hell out of here.'

"It might be a shrewd thing — four men carrying out one man who said he was shot, but I don't know. If it's true, it would mean seven people could have been involved.

"I think it is a conspiracy of some kind, at this point."

Strain, a Kennedy supporter but with no official connection with the Kennedy organization, also said that a woman he spoke to told him she had also seen the young man with the package (not Sirhan) earlier in the evening. She had noticed him because he was acting strangely.

Strain described the five young men as having dark hair like the accused assassin, Sirhan Sirhan, and looking like Latin Americans.

Dr. Parrott, who was with Strain and some other friends, said he first knew about the attack on Kennedy when Dr. McBroom ran up to them saying the Senator had been shot and needed help. Dr. Parrott said:

"We tried to get inside the ballroom but the guard would not let us in. He was being pushed and shoved and was apparently trying to carry out his job. However, I understand that while we were trying to get in, Dr. Ross Miller managed to do so and worked his way in to help the wounded."

"I never did get inside the ballroom to help.

"But I did see a young man with glassy eyes pushing past us saying 'Excuse me, excuse me.'

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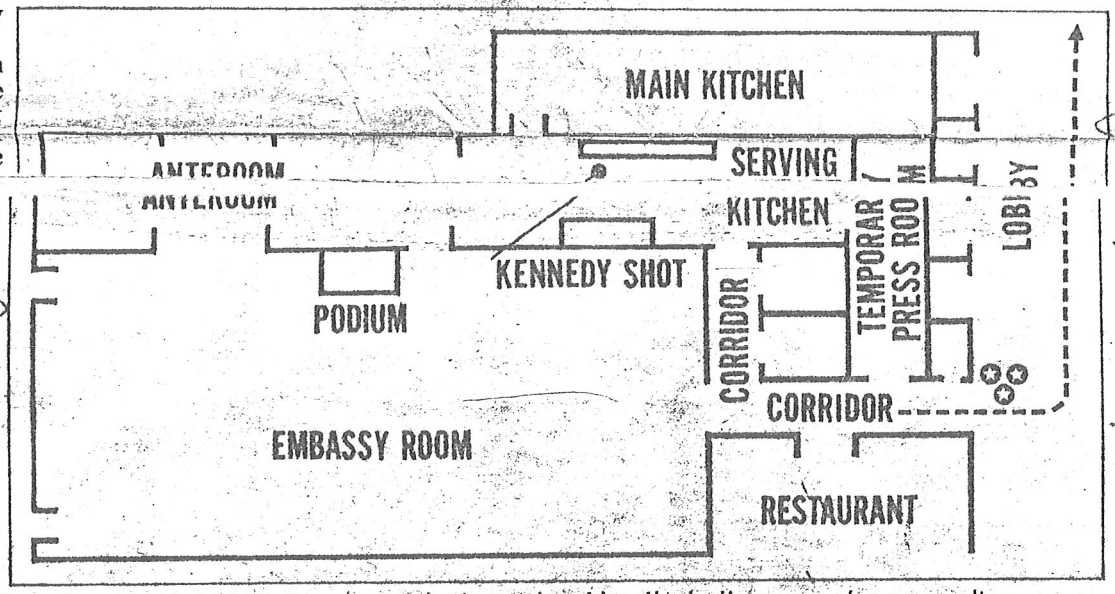
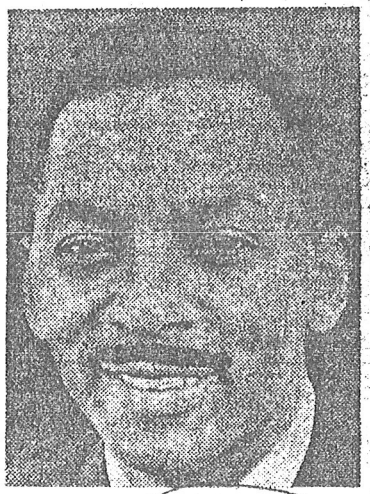


DEATH DIAGRAM: Layout of Ambassador Hotel's ballroom and surrounding area shows path (dotted line) taken by six fleeing men. They were seen by three reliable witnesses, Dr. McBroom, Samuel Strain and Dr. Parrott (represented by stars).



WITNESS McBroom, a family service director, saw a small man escape.

WITNESS Strain saw the six men who fled the assassination scene. He said all were dark-haired like Sirhan.

RFK Assassination

(Continued from preceding page)

His eyes appeared dilated, as if he had been under the influence of some drug. And he carried something wrapped in a paper under his arm.

"He was a young man, dark complexion, and polite. Then he broke and ran.

"Just then some of the Kennedy campaign aides came out of the ballroom yelling, 'Stop that man! Stop that man!'

"Another strange incident occurred. I saw about four or five young men carrying out another one on their shoulders, as if he had been wounded. I don't know if he had been shot — I didn't see any blood.

"They all vanished into the crowd."

Although the three men gave their information to police, none of them was called before the grand jury which met on June 7.

Their stories indicated enough plotters were involved in strategically in position to be able to get an open shot at Kennedy no matter which way he left the ballroom — through the crowds in front of him or through back rooms and kitchen.

It is believed that the grand jury was not given the evidence because officials wanted to bring a strong, uncomplicated case against Sirhan in seeking the indictment against him.

Police arrested 20 persons after the shooting but all have been released.

Dr. McBroom also told The ENQUIRER that the reason Senator Kennedy cut short his victory speech and left by way of the kitchen was because Ethel Kennedy was feeling faint and he himself was fatigued after a long day. Dr. McBroom said:

"Apparently to spare his wife from the crowd, the Senator went off through the doors to the kitchen passageway.

"The news photographers and others were expecting him to go to the left when he walked off the platform. He apparently felt his wife would be able to get away from the crush by taking that way.

LAST SPEECH by Robert Kennedy was made in ballroom of the Ambassador hotel, with wife Ethel at his side, minutes before death struck.

"He was concerned with his wife's health and safety and secondly, security was another consideration.

"Some of his aides had been urging him to take more precautions.

"Several weeks before," said Dr. McBroom, "I was with Kennedy's group as he walked through a large crowd in Los Angeles and I told him I feared for his safety.

"With a smile, Senator Kennedy told me: 'You, my wife, and my family. I've got to let the people know I am not the cold, ruthless one some people have tried to paint me.'

"My feeling was that Senator Kennedy was an extremely shy man, but he was carrying out a family tradition by getting close to people.

"It made him happy, this close communication."